MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether it was before or after the Resolution was passed in this House?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It might have been under consideration of Government even before that.

Abolition of export duty on cocoanut products.

157. ❋ **MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether, in pursuance of the Resolution passed in the Assembly, the export duty for the products of the cocoanut tree was abolished;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, why it was not done so; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, what is the exact amount that the Government would be losing towards the revenue of the State in this direction?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) and (*c*) These do not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member the exact amount that the Government are getting from the export duty of cocoanut products in the State?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is given in the Statistical Volume.

Abolition of export duty on cocoanut products.

158. ❋ **MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have accepted the Resolution passed in the Sri Mulam Assembly on the 28th May 1934 regarding the abolition of the export duty on copra and other cocoanut products;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the steps taken by Government for giving effect to the same; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, the reason for the same?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Resolution is under the consideration of Goverment.

(*b*) and (*c*) These do not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know from the member whether the abolition of this duty will better the economic condition of the Travancore cocoanut producers?

PRESIDENT: It is a question of opinion.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know the amount of export duty actually levied on cocoanut in 1108?

PRESIDENT: That has been answered. The member would do well to refer to the Statistical Volume.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the rate of export duty on one candy of copra in 1109 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It was published in the Gazette of the time.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the rate at present?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I think it is 5 per cent of Rs. 48, the tariff value of 1,000 cocoanuts, and of Rs. 96 the tariff value of one candy of copra.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum- Urban*): Is there any officer in the service of Government who has made a special study of tariffs?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Excise Commissioner is the adviser to Government on such matters.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know on what basis the tariff value was fixed ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was fixed in consideration of the market value at the time. The tariff value is always fixed higher than the market value. It has never been the policy of this Government to fix the tariff value at the same level as the market value.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) May I know whether the advice of the Excise Commissioner is that of an expert in the matter ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): When Government consider the question, they certainly take the advice of the Excise Commissioner.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know from Government whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee were aware that they were not in a position to tackle that policy ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I am aware of that.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know when this tariff rate was fixed, *i. e.* how many years ago ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am told it was fixed in Karkatakam 1106.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether there was any attempt on the part of Government to revise the tariff rates after 1106 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The matter has been engaging the attention of Government and is still under their consideration. Probably they will be able to come to a decision at an early date.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether it is the information of Government that the market value of articles in 1109 is just one-half of what it was in 1106 and that a revision of tariff rates has become highly necessary even though export duty is not abolished?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government feel the necessity and they are considering the question.

Statement by caste of Sirkar Vakils.

159. *MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalpuzha II*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the Sirkar Vakils in the State?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The *statement is laid on the table.

Road between Edappalli and Arakkakadavu.

160. *MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the opening of a metalled road between Edappalli and Arakkakadavu has been sanctioned by the Government; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether any provision has been made till now for carrying out the work?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know from the member whether any sum was provided in the budget in any of the previous years for this work?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I have no information on that point.

Newspapers subscribed for by Government.

161. *MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Will the Government be pleased to state the names of newspapers subscribed for by them together with the number of copies of each so subscribed for by them, and the respective amounts by way of subscription paid to each annually?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A †statement giving the information is laid on the table.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know whether this list includes also papers supplied to the Legislative Council Library?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that any newspaper is specially got down for the Council Library. Some papers subscribed for by Government are sometimes placed in the Council Library; but they are not intended solely for the Library.

Vide Appendix I

†*Vide* Appendix II

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